Installation of Telephones by Private Companies

1945. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether private telecom players are set to install phones in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details of the decisions made in this regard; and

(c) the terms and conditions decided on network sharing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION- TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The private Basic Telephone Service providers, who have been granted licence as per the guidelines dated 25.1.2001, are required to set up Points of Presence in urban, semi-urban and rural Short Distance Charging Areas (SDCAs), typically Tehsils, in equal proportion as a part of their roll out obligations.

(c) Such terms and conditions are a matter of mutual agreement amongst the operators.

Telephone Connections to Subscribers in Mainpuri

†1946. SHRI GHANSHYAM CHANDRA KHARWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that telephone connections have not been provided to the subscribers so far inspite of laying telephone lines for

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.